

Town Manager Report


Town of Lunenburg- January 4, 2022





Contact Information

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Announcement on Existing Vacancies

The following is a list of current vacancies on the following committees:

- Architectural Preservation District Commission (2 vacancies, one citizen at large and one representative from Historical Commission)
- Economic Development Committee (1 person recommended by the Open Space Committee and 1 ex-officio member that is business owner)
- Green Communities Committee (1 regular member vacancy and 2 Associate vacancies)
- Stormwater Task Force (2 vacant positions for citizens at large)
- Zoning Board of Appeals (1 Associate vacancy)

Interested persons can find application forms on the Town Website and completed forms can be sent to the Select Board's Office.

Current Employment Opportunities with the Town

The following is a list of current employment opportunities with the Town:

- Digital Services Staff Librarian (Part Time Benefitted)
- Assistant to the Sewer Business Manager (Part Time)
- Principal Assessor (Full Time Benefitted)

- Trash and Recycling Coordinator (Part Time Non-Benefitted)
- Videographers(2) (Part Time Non-Benefitted)

More information on each position can be found on the job postings, which are located on the town website.

ARPA Funding for COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits (Current Business)

Last Wednesday afternoon the State administration announced that municipalities would be able to purchase COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits using the state contract bid. Since then I was put in contact with a representative from Operational Services Division, who procures and oversees all the state bids/contracts, who provided me additional contact information for different manufacturers and distributors under two different state contracts. It was relayed to me that the supply for Rapid Test Kits is very limited right now, especially through these state contracts, since all towns/cities are trying to purchase them simultaneously, statewide school systems were provided kits, and 2.1M kits were issued to 102 cities and towns in MA with the highest percentage of families below the poverty level. I contacted seven different companies and heard back from two. One said there was a 4-8 week lead time and the other was able to send me a case immediately. We will be distributing 100 kits to the Senior Center to distribute and some will be reserved to distribute to employees. We know there has been requests by seniors for at home test kits so this will assist with that need. We have seen an uptick in employees testing positive or close contacts and in order to keep our other employees safe and those that test positive back to work, these test kits will be needed.

30 School Street Landscape Design Project Update

- A total of 36 responses were received from the survey. The architect is putting together a second survey based on the results from the first survey that will be shared once finalized.
- The "working group" (Police Chief, Fire Chief, DPW Director, Land Use Director, the Assistant Town Manager, and myself) met on December 23rd. We previewed two conceptual plans and provided feedback on public safety aspects, maintenance aspects, and access/parking. The notes from this meeting were forwarded to the Board today.
- The next Community Meeting will be held on January 18th at 7 pm. Ray will present two conceptual designs and their cost estimates at this meeting and the goal will be to select the preferred design at that meeting. Ray has created a flyer for this meeting and this will be shared on the website, to the Ledger, the townwide listserv, and on the Town Facebook page.

COVID-19 Update

The weekly update from the Board of Health on the total number of new cases reported as of December 25th was 71 and the positivity rate was 7.39%.

I attended today's Department of Public Health's webinar and it was reported that they are finding the disease is generally milder with the Omicron variant, they are seeing reinfection of those who had the Delta variant even within the 90 days, and that the incubation period is slightly shorter than the Delta and other previous variants.

Meetings, Events and Other Announcements

- The Parks Commission has a meeting on Thursday, January 6th for their 2nd community meeting on Marshall Park to be facilitated by WOLA landscape architects. This will be held at the Town Hall from 7-9 pm but also can be accessed through the Zoom link on their agenda.

